

# THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING  
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

202-504-2200  
202-504-2195 FAX

## MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

20 October 1994

AM 10:00 CONVENE, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

### I. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Approval of minutes:

14 September 1994

#### B. Dates of next meetings:

17 November 1994

15 December 1994

### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

#### A. National Park Service, National Capital Region

CFA 20/Oct/94-1, Women in Military Service for America, Memorial Drive Hemicycle at entrance to Arlington National Cemetery. Design development. (Previous: 23/Jul/92-1.)

#### B. Department of the Army

CFA 20/Oct/94-2, Pan Am Flight 103 Memorial Cairn. Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. Revised designs. (Previous: CFA 27/Jul/94-1.)

#### C. General Services Administration, National Capital Region

1. CFA 20/Oct/94-3, Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Canopies for the child development center. (Previous: CFA 26/Jul/89-5.)

2. CFA 20/Oct/94-4, Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 300 Independence Avenue, S.W. Design for replacement fence. (Previous: CFA 22/Jun/89-6.)



II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 20 October 1994

D. Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division

CFA 20/Oct/94-5, U.S. Naval Observatory.  
Addition to Quarters G on Rodgers Lane.

E. District of Columbia Department of  
Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

- a. S.L. 94-98, 51 Louisiana Avenue, N.W.  
The Acacia Building. Design for  
building addition. Conceptual.  
(Previous: CFA 14/Sept/94.)
- b. S.L. 94-100, 601 Pennsylvania Avenue,  
N.W., The Capital Grille.  
Alterations. Revised design. Permit.  
(Previous: CFA 14/Sept/94.)
- c. Appendix I.

2. Old Georgetown Act

- a. O.G. 94-143, Georgetown University,  
window replacement for 81 townhouses.  
Permit. (See attachment.)
- b. Appendix II.



## SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

| <u>NO.</u>  | <u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>                                                           | <u>PROJECT</u>                        |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| S.L. 94-102 | 2130 F Street, N.W.<br>Potomac Electric Power Company<br>Electric Substation no 74 | Repair and<br>replacement<br>- permit |

ACTION: Returned without Action. Proposed work is not visible from public space. (Replacement brick and mortar will match existing.)

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|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| S.L. 94-103 | 441 4th Street, N.W.<br>The Greeby Companies Inc.<br>Manchu Wok | Sign -<br>permit |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed non-electric sign on panel above door which conforms to previously approved sign scheme. See previous Action (S.L. 93-96).

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|             |                                                                               |                  |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| S.L. 94-104 | 441 4th Street, N.W.<br>The Greeby Companies Inc.<br>D.C. Office of Personnel | Sign -<br>permit |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed non-electric sign on panel above doors which conforms to previously approved sign scheme. Note: allocated space for sign on panel above doors is only 8'-5 ½" wide. See previous Actions (S.L. 93-96 and 93-7).

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|                          |                                                                         |                  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| S.L. 95-01<br>HPA. 95-03 | 205 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.<br>Sidney Zlotnik<br>Aristotle Industries | Sign -<br>permit |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

ACTION: Recommend AGAINST issuance of permit for proposed sign. Location and design of sign is inappropriate to this building and the historic district. Limit sign to within existing ground floor sign band ONLY. (Note is made that existing sign exceeds dimension of sign band and should be reduced accordingly).

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| <u>NO.</u> | <u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>                                                 | <u>PROJECT</u>   |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| S.L. 94-02 | 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.<br>Axion Realty Management<br>Au Bon Pain | Sign -<br>permit |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed replacement sign with a back-lit box sign, reading "Au Bon Pain". Letters should be no larger than 12 inches. Proposed sign conforms with previously approved sign program. See previous Action (S.L. 93-86).

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## OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

| <u>NO.</u>  | <u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u> | <u>PROJECT</u>   |
|-------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| O.G. 94-142 | 3000 Q Street, N.W.      | Alterations and  |
| HPA. 94-501 | Diane Sollins            | trellis on roof  |
|             | Verrill Residence        | terrace - permit |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to existing roof terrace, including the addition of lattice work and a trellis.

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|             |                      |                  |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| O.G. 94-154 | 2455 P Street, N.W.  | Razing of        |
| HPA. 94-520 | James and Sally Mead | garage off alley |
|             | Residence            | - permit         |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed razing of existing garage structure off alley which is found not to be a contributing element to the historic district.

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|             |                      |            |
|-------------|----------------------|------------|
| O.G. 94-155 | 2455 P Street, N.W.  | New garage |
| HPA. 94-519 | James and Sally Mead | off alley  |
|             | Residence            | - permit   |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new garage structure which will match materials and roof pitch of previously proposed adjacent garage structure at 2453 P Street. See Action for case O.G. 94-64.

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|             |                               |                 |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| O.G. 94-157 | 1677 31st Street, N.W.        | Alterations and |
| HPA. 94-532 | Stephen Wells and Jane Wilson | roof decks      |
|             | Residence                     | - conceptual    |

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed alterations and new roof decks over top floor of house and over garage.

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| <u>NO.</u>  | <u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>       | <u>PROJECT</u>                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| O.G. 94-159 | 1219 Potomac Street, N.W.      | Enlargement of                      |
| HPA. 94-548 | Alexander Meeraus<br>Residence | roof dormer on<br>rear - conceptual |

ACTION: No objection to concept of dormer enlargement on rear slope of roof. Recommend clear demarcation between new dormer and approved enlargement of neighboring dormer at 1217 Potomac Street.

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|             |                             |          |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| O.G. 94-160 | 1015 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. | Awnings  |
| HPA. 94-549 | Enterprise Rent-A-Car       | - permit |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for two proposed shed-type awnings over windows as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 6 October 1994. Drawings indicate lettering limited to the 1 foot valance. Existing pin-mounted sign on wall will be removed.

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|             |                                     |                  |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| O.G. 94-161 | 1066 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.         | Awnings and      |
| HPA. 94-550 | BBRG of Washington DC<br>Papa Razzi | sign -<br>permit |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed signs and awnings as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated October 1994.

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|             |                                 |                   |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| O.G. 94-162 | 2804 Dumbarton Street, N.W.     | New door surround |
| HPA. 94-551 | Javier Sagarminaga<br>Residence | - permit          |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new door surround which will have a pilaster return of at least 2.5 inches.

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|             |                                   |                           |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| O.G. 94-163 | 3322 O Street, N.W.               | Gate off alley            |
| HPA. 94-552 | Mrs. H. J. Heinz III<br>Residence | and trellis -<br>- permit |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new gate opening and trellis off alley.



| <u>NO.</u>  | <u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>                       | <u>PROJECT</u>              |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| O.G. 94-164 | 3065 M Street, N.W.                            | Alterations to              |
| HPA. 94-553 | Capital Management & Development<br>Commercial | storefronts<br>- conceptual |

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed alterations to storefronts or to proposed general building envelope as seen from the alley to the rear. Great care must be given the building on the west which constitutes one of the few remaining wood structures on M Street (changes to the building should clearly reflect its historic materials). It is hoped that space will be provided within the rear zoning setback for an in-ground tree.

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|             |                                                   |                          |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| O.G. 94-165 | 1225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.                       | 2-story high             |
| HPA. 94-554 | Britches of Georgetown<br>Britches Great Outdoors | canvas signs<br>- permit |

ACTION: Recommend AGAINST issuance of permit for "temporary" 2-story high canvas signs which would be inappropriate to the historic district.

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|             |                                 |                        |
|-------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| O.G. 94-166 | 3105 M Street, N.W.             | Alterations to         |
| HPA. 94-555 | Germar Properties<br>Hear Music | storefront<br>- permit |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to storefront. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 94-101). Sign(s) are not included in this permit application and will be submitted for review at a later date.

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|             |                           |                              |
|-------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| O.G. 94-167 | 3041 West Lane Keys, N.W. | Alterations and              |
| HPA. 94-506 | Nancy Bubes<br>Residence  | addition to<br>roof - permit |

ACTION: Recommend AGAINST issuance of permit for alterations and addition to roof. Proposed work would be disruptive to this row of houses built contemporaneously and would require far more modification of the existing structure than indicated on the inadequate drawings provided. As such, the proposal in its entirety would be inappropriate to the historic district. Note is made that although applicant was informed of meeting, no one was present to discuss the project.



| <u>NO.</u>  | <u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>         | <u>PROJECT</u>                     |
|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| O.G. 94-168 | 3700 O Street, N.W.              | Alterations to                     |
| HPA. 94-557 | Georgetown Visitation<br>Convent | P Street wall<br>- revised concept |

ACTION: No objection to concept of reducing height of existing masonry wall in area known as Section 5 on P Street as a result of dangerously unstable conditions. The wall will be lowered to a minimum height of 4.5 feet from grade at the convent garden capped by a wrought and cast metal fence of fleur-de-lys pickets. It is agreed that Sections 6 and 7 of the masonry wall will not be lowered and that a greater portion of the return onto Section 5 will be retained for historic continuity.

|             |                               |                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| O.G. 94-169 | 2920 R Street, N.W.           | Brick                 |
| HPA. 94-558 | Katherine Graham<br>Residence | enclosure<br>- permit |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed 7-foot high brick enclosure for mechanical equipment.

|             |                             |          |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| O.G. 94-171 | 3012 Dumbarton Street, N.W. | Chimney  |
| HPA. 94-548 | E. G. Verville<br>Residence | - permit |

ACTION: Returned without Action. Proposed work is not visible from public space. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

|             |                                                                       |                  |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| O.G. 94-172 | 3139 M Street, N.W.                                                   | Projecting       |
| HPA. 94-580 | Philbert Properties<br>Old Glory Restaurant<br>All American Bar-B-Que | sign -<br>permit |

ACTION: Recommend AGAINST issuance of permit for a projecting sign at this location. In addition, the proposal (which is to read "All American Bar-B-Que") in itself far exceeds the square foot allowance under the D.C. Building Code. With respect to the wall-mounted sign that currently exists and would remain, the accumulative square-footage would be in excess of twice that allowance.





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## COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS PRE-MEETING TOUR

20 October 1994

CONVENE: 8:00 AM, Pension Building, Suite 312,  
441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

1. Women in Military Service for America, Memorial Drive at entrance to arlington Natinal Cemetery.
2. Tour of Arlington National Cemetery.
3. Pan Am Flight 103 Memorial Cairn. Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.
4. The Acacia Building, 51 Louisiana Avenue, N.W. (S.L. 94-98)

### Members Present:

The Hon. Joan Abrahamson  
The Hon. Adele Chatfield-Taylor  
The Hon. Jeannine Smith Clark  
The Hon. George Hartman  
The Hon. Robert Peck  
The Hon. Susan Porter Rose

### Staff Present:

Charles H. Atherton, Secretary  
Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary  
Sue Kohler  
Jeffrey R. Carson



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## MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

20 October 1994

The meeting was convened at 10:15 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at the Pension Building, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., after a tour of project sites.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman  
Hon. George E. Hartman, Vice-Chairman  
Hon. Joan Abrahamson  
Hon. Adele Chatfield-Taylor  
Hon. Jeannine Smith Clark  
Hon. Robert A. Peck  
Hon. Susan Porter Rose

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary  
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary  
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson  
Mrs. Sue Kohler  
Mr. José Martínez-Canino

National Capital  
Planning Commission  
staff present: Mr. Patrick Tribe

### I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes of the 14 September 1994 meeting. Mr. Peck asked for a change in the reporting of a statement he made during the Acacia Building discussion (S.L. 94-98) so that it would reflect more accurately what he had said. The change was subsequently made (see September minutes, page 9, line 38.) Similarly, Ms. Abrahamson asked for a change in the minutes to reflect more nearly a statement she had made during the discussion of the Air Force Memorial (CFA 24/SEP/94-1). The change was subsequently made (see September minutes, page 4, line 10.) With these exceptions, the minutes were approved.

### B. Dates of next meetings, approved as:

17 November 1994  
15 December 1994



## II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service, National Capital Region

CFA 20/OCT/94-1, Women in Military Service for America Memorial, Memorial Drive Hemicycle at entrance to Arlington Cemetery. Design development. (Previous: 23/JUL/92-1.) Staff member Sue Kohler recalled the Commission's previous approval of the concept design for this memorial and the realization at that time that many design details had yet to be resolved. Noted specifically had been the stairs intended for the hemicycle niches. The question had been whether they could be pulled back so that they would not extend beyond the face of the hemicycle wall and at the same time not be too steep; the architects had also been asked to give further study to the way the stairs emerged from the berm behind. A second area of concern had been lighting: how visible would any proposed night lighting, as well as light escaping through the skylights, be from the Mall and how would it affect the views of the Kennedy grave and the Custis-Lee Mansion?

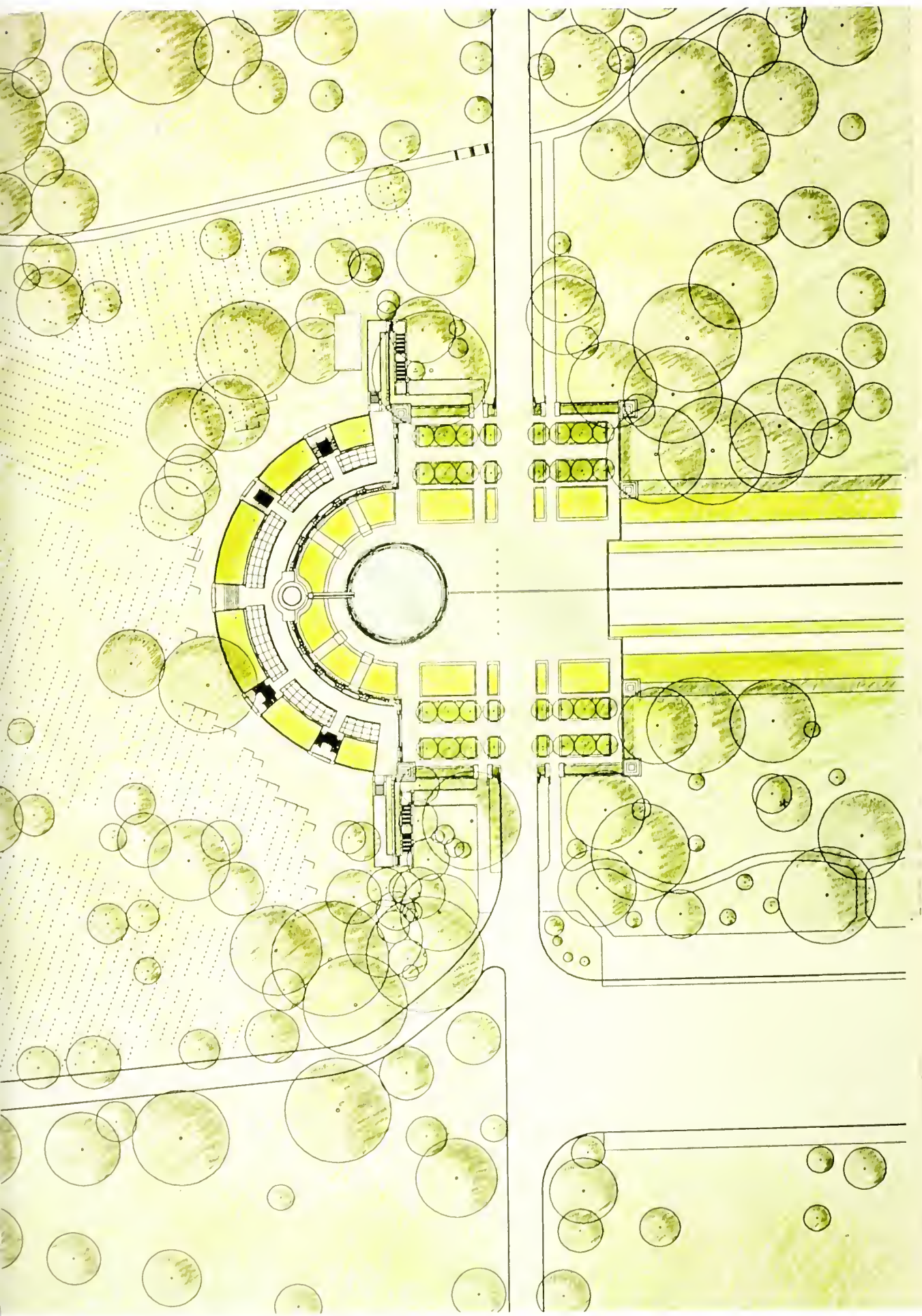
Mrs. Kohler said there were a number of people present to bring the Commission up to date on the changes that had been made since the last presentation, including Brigadier General Wilma Vaught, president of the Women in Military Service for America Foundation, architects Marion Weiss and Michael Manfredi, project manager John Carr, restoration architect Mary Oehrlein, and John Parsons from the National Park Service. She asked Mr. Parsons to begin the presentation.

Mr. Parsons said the design refinements to be shown to the Commission had been developed in cooperation with his agency, the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, and the National Capital Planning Commission. He introduced General Vaught to comment. General Vaught said she was pleased with the progress of the design, and also with the sales of the commemorative coin issued recently in honor of the memorial. She showed an example to the members, noting that the design for the memorial appeared on the reverse. General Vaught said 227,000 coins had already been sold. She then introduced the architects, Marion Weiss and Michael Manfredi, to discuss changes that had been made to the concept design.

Mr. Manfredi used slides to accompany his presentation. First he showed evidence of water penetration in the existing structure, noting the calcite deposits in many places and discussing the plans for restoration and repair. He said the structure was basically in good condition, and the pylons near the north and south entrances had been checked and were able to be fitted with elevators for access to the upper terrace; at this time an elevator was planned only for the south entrance.







Site Plan for WIMSA Memorial and Education Center

27. CFA 20 Oct. 94-1. Arlington.  
Women in Military Service  
Memorial.





28. CFA 20 Oct. 94-1. Arlington.  
Women in Military Service  
Memorial.



29. CFA 20 Oct. 94-1. Arlington.  
Women in Military Service  
Memorial.

Mr. Manfredi said the site plan had changed since the Commission had approved the concept design. He showed slides of drawings and a model, pointing out that the bosques of trees in front had been pulled back from the centerline on each side so that the hemicycle could be seen better; the trees would be pleached, little-leaf lindens with ground cover planted beneath them to give a softening effect. The stone terracing bordering the hemicycle had been removed and replaced by grass, furthering the effort to soften the plaza area, with walks leading to the four stairs in the niches. Precast pavers would be used in the central paved area, with granite trim along the edges, similar to recently developed sidewalk materials around the White House and the new Arlington Cemetery Visitors Center.

Marion Weiss continued the presentation. She spoke about the water feature, symbolic of the voices of women, which would now emanate from the basin, flow into a rill and come to rest finally in a circular reflecting pool.

Ms. Weiss then addressed the design of the stairs. She showed sectional drawings, pointing out that they had been able to pull the stairs back so that they were within the face of the wall, and also to make them less steep. She discussed the lighting, saying it was very important to the spirit of the memorial and had been carefully considered as it would be visible from the Lincoln Memorial and from up close, as one entered the Court of Honor, and as it would affect the other Arlington memorials. She said the shadow effect of the inscriptions on the glass skylight panels, as they were projected onto the gallery walls below, had been exhaustively studied, and it had been determined that the inscriptions could be read under some, but not all conditions. She showed a sample of the glass, an exceptionally clear variety, with letters etched in it.

Mr. Peck asked where one would enter the memorial. Ms. Weiss said there would be two entrances, at the north and south walls, near the pylons, but the south would be the main one since most people would be coming from the Visitors Center on the south side of Memorial Avenue. She showed a drawing of the existing framed panels in the walls, which would be opened up as entrances. A revision to the concept design showed the doors recessed, to avoid the jarring effect of modern glass doors at the face of the wall and also to provide some protection from the weather. An elevator for access to the upper terrace would be placed in the south pylon.

The discussion turned to the site plan, which had undergone more revisions than any other part of the memorial. Questions were asked first about the large oak trees behind the hemicycle, which the members had admired during their site visit. Ms. Weiss said a number of them would remain, and there were others behind them, not apparent at present, which would fill in the gaps left by those





that had to be removed; new oak trees would also be planted in the area.

Mrs. Rose thought the site plan was very stark and not in the spirit of the cemetery; she did not think it would "beckon", or act as a "passage" as the architects hoped, but would rather emphasize the difference between the old and new. The Chairman thought more "tapis vert" in front of the reflecting pool might provide a needed softening effect, but he realized there was also a requirement for vehicular access to this area. Mr. Peck was also concerned, observing that throughout the cemetery as well as the monumental part of Washington, the hard-edged structures were seen as isolated items in a broad expanse of green and did not dominate the landscape. He thought that the more the hard-edged character could be reduced, the more successful the memorial would be and the better it would relate to the cemetery. He also thought the less done to the McKim, Mead & White design the better. Ms. Chatfield-Taylor agreed with the concerns that had been expressed. She thought it very important not to lose the "feel" of the existing structure and courtyard and she worried about the detailing of the new elements. She was not sure the middle-eastern rill, or connecting element, between the basin and the new reflecting pool worked with the strongly classical architecture, and she thought it might be better just to keep the beautiful classical basin and put a fountain in it. The stiff rows of pleached trees also seemed questionable to her as did the lack of continuity between Memorial Drive and the courtyard beyond. Vice-Chairman Hartman was also concerned about the rill and about the use of pleached trees, noting that they were not used anywhere else in the cemetery. He suggested a mock-up of the trees and the water elements to determine more accurately what the effect would be. He thought the most important consideration in developing the site plan was obtaining a subtle balance between the memorial and the cemetery; he said the courtyard area needed to be regularized but not transformed.

The Chairman said he did not mind the connection between the basin and the pool; he thought the use of the Alhambra-like element had a memorial function, gave the new reflecting pool some meaning, and showed that this was not just a restoration of the exedra. He said his principal concern was the night lighting; he was afraid the skylights would upstage the hemicycle, the Custis-Lee Mansion, and the Kennedy grave.

Ms. Weiss introduced lighting designer Howard Brandston from H. M. Brandston & Partners to speak to this aspect of the design. Mr. Brandston said he had been very sensitive to the questions the Chairman had raised, and he could assure the Commission that no more than a soft glow from the skylights would be seen through the balustrade. There would be no lights on or within the skylights themselves, and they would not be visible above the structure of the hemicycle.





General Vaught commented on the pleached trees, saying that she did not find the formality and the lining up out of place in a military cemetery. Mr. Peck commented that while close order drill was characteristic of a parade ground, in the field a dispersing and blending in with nature was imperative; he found the latter to be the aspect of military discipline that Arlington showed so well. Roger Courtney, the representative from EDAW, landscape architects, said the pleached trees followed the formality of Memorial Drive, but Ms. Abrahamson thought that once you entered the cemetery you were in a different world, a sacred precinct, and the landscape should be different; the women's memorial should invite the visitor into that world.

The Chairman suggested at this point that perhaps the Commission could give final approval to the memorial design, but not to the details of the plaza development. Vice-Chairman Hartman made a motion to that effect, and after some discussion Mr. Peck seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. The architects were asked to mock-up the plaza details before making their decisions on a revised design. Exhibit A

B. Department of the Army

CFA 20/OCT/94-2, Pan Am Flight 103 Memorial Cairn. Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. Revised designs. (Previous: CFA 27/JUL/94-1) Staff member Jeffrey Carson said only one revised design would be presented--a low, curved wall of boulders with a metal plaque, bearing the names of those who died, fastened to the stone. He noted that the Commission had visited the site on their pre-meeting tour and then introduced John Metzler, superintendent of Arlington Cemetery.

Mr. Metzler said he had reexamined the fifteen other memorials at Arlington to see how they related to the cemetery, and he had come to the conclusion that the cairn would be appropriate but the other elements were still questionable. He introduced Steven Dola, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. Secretary Dola said he was representing Dr. Zirschky, the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, who had to be out of town. Secretary Dola said the Army's concern was that there be a consistent approach to memorials in the cemetery. He said the aesthetics of the design for this memorial, specifically the berm and stone wall, were not compatible with the other memorials. He also expressed concern that the root system of the three 150-year-old oak trees on the site, as well as the underground utilities, would be affected by the construction. Finally, he said the listing of names of those not eligible for burial in Arlington was not consistent with the cemetery's policy. Of the seven memorials in the cemetery that did list names, six had the names of service members who died on active duty, and in the case of the seventh, the Challenger Memorial, all the individuals listed who were not in







30. CFA 20 Oct. 94-2. Arlington  
National Cemetery. Pan Am  
Flight 103 Memorial.

military service had received special authorization to be buried in Arlington. In closing, Secretary Dola expressed the Army's willingness to work with both the Commission and the victims' representatives to find a solution that was acceptable to everyone.

Deirdre Fortune, representing Victims of Pan Am Flight 103, Inc., spoke next. She began by saying that she needed a clear understanding of the function of the Commission of Fine Arts; not having that, she asked the Commission to review the design assuming that technical problems, such as the tree roots and underground utilities, could be solved. She said it was her understanding that the listing of names was up to the Army, but she would like the Commission to continue the design review as if they would be there. She recalled the gift of the cairn, made of 270 rough-cut stones, the same as the number of victims, and said that since the stone was too rough to have the names incised in it, the architect had been asked to design something that could display them. She reviewed the Commission's recommendations that the names be placed on a base or on the ground, or that the berm be reexamined in terms of softening it and making it look more natural. Mrs. Fortune then introduced the architect, Michael Blauvelt.

Mr. Blauvelt said he had first tried to soften the original wall, but then decided to use a boulder wall instead, and a slight, undulating berm; he felt this would lessen the impact on the site and would require less of a foundation. He showed drawings, pointing out the metal plaque on top which would have the listing of names.

Mr. Peck said the cairn was fine, but not the berm. He commented on the recently-erected Third Infantry Division Memorial, noting its simplicity, the space around it, and the simple plaque in front giving information. Mr. Hartman said that during the inspection tour he had realized that the Pan Am site was too small for the berm and wall, that it was physically almost impossible to build them.

Mrs. Fortune thought something other than the cairn was needed because there was too much distraction in the area--a parking lot and a building--and additionally, there had to be someplace to put the names. With the berm, the visitor would turn and face the cemetery while reading the names and not look at the parking lot. She said she did not find the Commission's suggestion that the names be put on the ground plane acceptable because they could then be walked on.

Ms. Chatfield-Taylor thought the cairn was more dignified just sitting there by itself. If the names were on a base, the visitor would walk around and experience the cemetery properly; she said, regretfully, that she thought the new design looked like a miniature golf course.



The Chairman said that ideally cairns should be raised and approached from below. The berm design might make the cairn appear sunken in relation to its surroundings, and if the design seemed forced or artificial, it would detract from the dignity and power of the simple cairn form. He said the names issue belonged to the Army, not to the Commission of Fine Arts, but if the Army agreed to the names, then the Commission would recommend that they be on a base or on the ground plane, incised in stone. He said he would not worry about their being walked on, and cited the memorials of Westminster Abbey and many other churches.

Ms. Abrahamson said she felt the cairn was a strong form, that its size added to its strength; she thought the "island" site was indeed part of the cemetery, that there were interesting monuments around it, that the parking lot was not necessarily a permanent feature, and that its appearance could at least be improved. She thought the placement of the plaque would tell the visitor how to approach, and the berm was not needed. Mrs. Rose observed that the Washington Monument, another simple form, rose without embellishment from the grass-covered earth; she thought that was the kind of simplicity this memorial needed.

Mr. Peck moved that the Commission approve the cairn and disapprove the berm; if the Army decided to approve the names, then Mrs. Fortune's group should bring a design showing them on a base or the ground. Ms. Abrahamson seconded the motion which was then carried unanimously. The Chairman recalled that the problem of listing donors' names at the German-American Friendship Garden on the Mall had been solved by placing a list in a time capsule; he thought that could be done inside the cairn. Mr. Metzler said he would have no problem with that solution. Exhibit B

C. General Services Administration, National Capital Region

1. CFA 20/OCT/94-3, Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Canopies for the child development center. (Previous: CFA 26/JUL/89-5). Mr. Martínez recalled the Commission's approval of this day care center some time ago, and said the submission was for two canopies made of striped canvas. He showed photographs, pointing out where the canopies would be installed, and then showed drawings and material samples. The members had no objections to the installation, and expressed a preference for the more subtle of the two stripings. The request was also made that plants be placed along the wall to alleviate the barren appearance. Exhibit C

2. CFA 20/OCT/94-4, Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 300 Independence Avenue, S.W. Design for replacement fence. (Previous: CFA 22/JUN/89-6). Again, Mr. Martínez recalled the approval of the play area, including the existing fence for which a taller, eight-foot replacement was being requested for security purposes. Drawings showed a two-part fence,





with a bronze-tinted glass panel below and a metal railing above. The representative from GSA, Dilip Chitre, said the purpose of the glass was to allow the children to look out.

There were no objections to increasing the height of the fence, but GSA was asked to use an exclusively metal railing design and to set it back off an existing planter. Mr. Peck thought the entire plaza should be redesigned so that it was more friendly to people. Attention was then focused on the planter which was part of Marcel Breuer's original design but was not in use because of an infestation of rats. It was an eyesore, and suggestions were made that ways to rat-proof it be investigated so that it could again be used for flowers and bring some color to the play area. The Chairman suggested that GSA bring a revised fence design and more information on the planter to the staff for approval. Exhibit C

D. Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division

CFA 20/OCT/94-5, U. S. Naval Observatory. Addition to Quarters G on Rodgers Lane. (The Chairman left the meeting briefly at this point to return a telephone call. Vice-Chairman Hartman assumed the gavel.) Mr. Carson explained that Quarters G was a two-family structure that needed an addition. He showed drawings and then introduced Larry Earle from the Navy. Mr. Earle said the building was almost completely screened from public view and would have no visual impact on the Vice-Presidential compound, other important Observatory buildings or the surrounding neighborhood, but it was being shown to the Commission just to be sure that there were no objections. Questions were asked about the window design, to which Mr. Earle responded, and the addition was then unanimously approved. (Chairman Brown returned to the meeting at the end of this discussion.) Exhibit D

E. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

(The agenda order was changed and number "b" under the Shipstead-Luce submissions was discussed first.)

b. S.L. 94-100, 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., The Capital Grille. Alterations. Revised design. Permit. (Previous: CFA 14/SEP/94.) Mr. Martínez recalled the Commission's previous request for a much simplified canopy. He showed drawings of a canvas canopy set between the two entrance columns. Lanterns would be fastened to the columns with a "pipe clamp" type of attachment. There was agreement that this represented a great improvement over what had been seen previously, and it was unanimously approved. Exhibit E

a. S.L. 94-98, 51 Louisiana Avenue, N.W. The Acacia Building. Design for building addition. Conceptual. (Previous: CFA 14/SEP/94.) (Vice-Chairman Hartman left the room during this



discussion as his firm was the architect for the project.) Mr. Martínez noted that the members had visited the site on their pre-meeting tour and then introduced Graham Davidson from Hartman-Cox to discuss the project further and answer questions.

Mr. Davidson reviewed the plans for demolition and new construction, noting that the same axis, facing the Capitol, would be retained, and the new construction would be separated from the original building by reveals of a curtain wall type construction. He discussed the height and the need for a zoning variance and showed a model and section drawing, pointing out that the new addition would be slightly less than a floor higher than the existing addition. He said it would reinforce the boundary of the Capitol grounds and would hide several unattractive buildings behind it, but it would not be detrimental to the Capitol or the well-designed buildings in the immediate area.

Mr. Peck said the issue concerning the Commission was the appearance from the nearest point on the Capitol grounds; he said that from this point he did not have a problem with the new height. Ms. Abrahamson said she did; she was afraid the new addition would appear as a great hulking mass. The Chairman agreed there was an impression of bulk, of sheer volume. He observed that this part of the city had an institutional character, it was not commercial, and all the buildings played a supporting role; he suggested taking off the top story. Mr. Davidson said portions of the penthouse could be lowered by about a third.

Mrs. Rose was worried about setting a precedent if the extra height were granted. Ms. Abrahamson thought the height should be kept the same as the existing, while the Chairman, Ms. Chatfield-Taylor and Mr. Peck thought some extra height could be allowed, although not necessarily as much as was shown on the drawings. Ms. Chatfield-Taylor said she wasn't sure the height was as much of a problem as the mass. The consensus was that the design was not yet satisfactory, and the architects were asked for further studies on ways to reduce both height and mass. Exhibit E

c. Appendix I. the Appendix was approved without objection.

## 2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 94-143, Georgetown University, window replacement for 81 townhouses. Permit. (See attachment.) The Assistant Secretary said the Georgetown Board had reviewed this project, and with the staff, had inspected each one of the eighty-one houses and made recommendations. A policy statement had been issued giving guidelines for replacement of windows throughout the historic district; it stated, among other things, that wooden windows should be repaired rather than replaced if possible, that



replacements should retain the historic character of the originals, and that inappropriate trim and fake shutters should be removed.

Mr. Myer said the project had been a very successful one and that everyone involved had been extremely cooperative. The Commission congratulated the university, the Georgetown Board and the staff and unanimously approved the submission. Exhibit E

b. Appendix II. The Appendix was approved without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton  
Secretary



# THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING  
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

202-504-2200  
202-504-2195 FAX

## EXHIBIT A

2 November 1994

Dear Mr. Stanton:

At its 20 October meeting the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed design development plans for the Women in Military Service for America Memorial. Prior to the meeting we had spent close to an hour walking around the site, including the area behind the hemicycle, in an effort to assess the effect the proposed plans would have on the existing historic architecture and its setting.

The concerns expressed at our meeting in July 1992 regarding the stairs in the niches of the hemicycle and the effect of night lighting appear to have been addressed satisfactorily, and we have no objections to recessing the doors at the north and south entrances nor to closing off the stairs with gates when the cemetery is not open. Regret was expressed that any of the large trees at the rear will have to be removed, but the Commission was assured that every effort will be made to save as many as possible.

Although the memorial design was given final approval, the development of the plaza was not. In spite of the softening effect that had resulted from changes to the 1992 concept, there were misgivings about the stark effect of the paved area and the formality of the pleached trees, which provided such a sharp contrast to the informality that characterizes the landscaping of Arlington. Some of the members questioned the design of the water feature and pool, feeling that the modern and middle-eastern elements might not turn out to be sympathetic to the classical design of the hemicycle. It was thought that a more subtle balance was needed between old and new, both within the hemicycle area itself and as it related to Memorial Drive. Mock-ups of some of the plaza elements, particularly the pleached trees, could be extremely helpful in assessing the impact of the design.

On the whole, the Commission was pleased with the

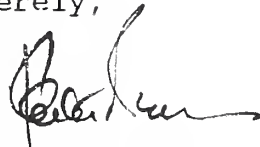




page 2

design of the memorial and the way in which it will be incorporated into the hemicycle, and with the plans for restoration of this historic landmark. We look forward to reviewing final plans for the plaza area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Robert G. Stanton  
Regional Director  
National Park Service  
National Capital Region  
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20242



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## EXHIBIT B

2 November 1994

Dear Mr. Metzler:

The Commission was pleased to meet with you, Army representative Steve Dola, and the sponsors of the Pan Am Flight 103 Memorial during its meeting of 20 October 1994. Inspecting the site earlier in the day proved invaluable. The tour of Arlington, seeing the cemetery as a whole, confirmed the members' unease with respect to the proposed development of the memorial as submitted. By itself, the cairn is a powerful and dignified statement. Given the site, a small flat island of green, punctuated by venerable oaks, overlooking a nearby section of the old cemetery, it should be an aesthetically serene addition.

With these comments in mind, the Commission recommends against any additional embellishment of the cairn, in particular walls, berms, fences or plantings. The presentations made have made it clear that such embellishment would prove distracting and superfluous, not only with respect to the site but in the context of the neighboring burial grounds and Arlington in general.

As for the proposed text and list of names, the Commission has several recommendations which you and the Army may find useful. There is no doubt that the Army would prefer to avoid listing the victims of a civilian airline disaster in a military cemetery. It would seem entirely fitting, therefore, that you consider the placement of a "time capsule" containing the list of names and the history of the flight within the body of the cairn. In this way, the cairn would become a symbolic "tomb" for all those who perished, without creating an obvious precedent. A plaque, or lettering incised into a stone base for the memorial, could include a simple, powerful statement, a complement to the strength of the cairn itself. The memorial cairn should become a part of the historic fabric of Arlington rather

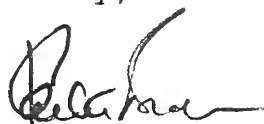


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than run the risk of becoming an awkward appendage.

The Commission looks forward to the review of final designs as they become available. In the meantime, the staff is available should any questions arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Carter Brown', with a stylized, flowing script.

J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. John C. Metzler, Jr.  
Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery  
Arlington National Cemetery  
Arlington, VA 22211-5003





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2 November 1994

EXHIBIT C

Dear Mr. Chitre:

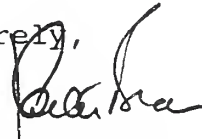
During its meeting 20 October 1994, the Commission reviewed design modifications for the child development centers at the Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, and at the Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building.

The design for the canopies at the Forrestal site were approved along with a preference for the fabric sample labeled Hossegor 6228, which was considered a more compatible color for the building. As an aside, it is hoped that GSA will consider installing planters to soften the harsh appearance of the entry court.

At the H.H.S. Building North, the Commission believes that the design for the proposed fence can be improved. Although there is no objection to the installation of an eight-foot-high security fence, the members recommend a simplified design of vertical metal bars. As noted with the Forrestal site, the Commission is concerned by the stark appearance of the plaza adjacent to the playground. To resolve the problem, the existing planter should be refurbished to fulfill its original function.

As always, the staff is available to assist you.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Dilip V. Chitre  
General Services Administration  
N.C.R./Repair and Alteration Division  
Room No. 7645, WPTX  
Seventh and "D" Streets, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20407



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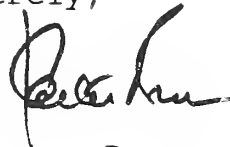
EXHIBIT D

2 November 1994

Dear Mr. Faught:

During its meeting of 20 October 1994, the Commission reviewed and approved the design for a two-story addition to Quarters G on Rodgers Lane at the U.S. Naval Observatory. The members noted that the character of the proposed addition and the materials to be used will duplicate the existing structure. As such, double-hung windows are recommended rather than the casement units shown.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. William D. Faught  
Director Installation Planning Division  
Department of the Navy  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
Building 212  
Washington Navy Yard  
Washington, D.C. 20374-2121



**AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT**

20 October 1994

| <u>NO.</u> | <u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>                         | <u>PROJECT</u>           |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| S.L. 94-98 | 51 Louisiana Avenue, N.W.<br>The Acacia Building | Addition<br>- conceptual |

ACTION: Recommend AGAINST concept of building addition as proposed. After two Commission meetings on 14 September and 20 October 1994, and a site inspection, the mass and height of the proposed addition are found to be incompatible with the existing building and its context in this part of the city.

note: Applicant requested the opportunity to present a revised design to the Commission at their 17 November meeting.

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|             |                               |                 |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| S.L. 94-100 | 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. | Alterations and |
| HPA. 94-536 | The Capital Grille            | new canopy      |
|             |                               | - permit        |

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations, including shed type awnings over entry and windows as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 20 October 1994.

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|             |                       |             |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| O.G. 94-143 | 81 townhouses         | Window      |
| HPA. 94-502 | Georgetown University | replacement |
|             | Residences            | - permit    |

ACTION: See attached Old Georgetown Board Report to the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved by the Commission at their meeting 20 October 1994.

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